



# ***Daily Report***

## **Sub-Saharan Africa**

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FBIS-AFR-96-044  
Tuesday  
5 March 1996

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March 1996

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# Daily Report

## Sub-Saharan Africa

FBIS-AFR-96-044

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**Angola: UNITA's Savimbi Meets Mandela in Togo  
4 Mar**

*MB0503065496 Jamba Voz da Resistencia do Galo  
Negro in Portuguese 0600 GMT 5 Mar 96*

[FBIS Translated Text] Jonas Savimbi, the oldest president of the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA), held talks with South African President Nelson Rolihlahla Madiba Mandela in the Republic of Togo on 4 March 1996. Sources close to the UNITA presidency described the meeting, the second in less than a year, as useful, but they did not elaborate. The sources added that the two leading African politicians dealt with the Angolan peace process and democracy in the former apartheid fatherland.

President Savimbi is visiting Togo. On 1 and 2 March, the UNITA leader was in Gabon, attending the fourth summit meeting with Dos Santos.

**Cote d'Ivoire: Mandela Comments During Layover  
En Route to Mali**

*AB0203192196 Abidjan La Chaine Une Television  
Network in French 1300 GMT 2 Feb 96*

[FBIS Translated Text] South Africa's President Nelson Mandela made a stopover in Abidjan this morning on his way to Mali on an official visit.

[Begin recording] [Mobio] At 0845 this morning, the South African airliner landed at Felix Houphouet Boigny International Airport. President Mandela was eager to stop over in Cote d'Ivoire, a country he holds in esteem. In the company of Ivorian Prime Minister Daniel Kablan Duncan, President Mandela said a few words to justify his presence in Abidjan.

[Mandela in English fading into French translation] I am making a stopover here en route to Mali. I cannot help stopping over here because Cote d'Ivoire gave us support in our fight against apartheid. Houphouet-Boigny's Cote d'Ivoire gave us a lot of support, and that contribution was very essential and helped us in many respects. Cote d'Ivoire provided support and resources at the time we needed it most and the late Houphouet-Boigny gave us very useful advice. That is why I am stopping over here today to express, once again, our thanks.

[Mobio] President Mandela did not fail to mention the state of relations between Cote d'Ivoire and South Africa, saying cooperation between the two countries is well on track.

[Mandela] We have diplomatic relations with Cote d'Ivoire. We have also signed political and economic agreements with Cote d'Ivoire and wish to develop these

relations. I had the honor and privilege of meeting with President Bedie during the OAU summit in Tunisia, and I must say that he impressed me very much. He delivered one of the best speeches at the summit, and I believe he is one of the highly esteemed presidents at this moment.

[Mobio] President Mandela is going to Mali for a two-day official visit. The visit will focus on Mali-South Africa relations. His stopover was certainly brief, but rich in lessons. President Mandela and his foreign minister took off for Bamako at 1030. [end recording]

**Mali: Mandela Says South Africa To Establish  
Embassy**

*MB0303151496 Johannesburg SAfm Radio Network  
in English 0500 GMT 3 Mar 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] President Nelson Mandela has announced that South Africa is to establish an embassy in Mali. Speaking at a state banquet held in his honor in the Mali capital, Bamako, President Mandela said that while Mali already had an ambassador in Pretoria, South Africa had yet to appoint one to Mali. During the banquet, Mr. Mandela was awarded Mali's highest decoration, the National Order of Mali. He in turn presented Malian President Alpha Konare with South Africa's Order of Good Hope. Today Mr. Mandela is to meet local leaders from a range of organizations in Mali and address the local business community. He leaves for Togo tomorrow.

**Mali: South Africa's Mandela Ends Official Visit 4  
March**

*AB0403172996 Bamako Radiodiffusion-Television du  
Mali Radio in French 1300 GMT 4 Mar 96*

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] President Nelson Mandela ended his official visit to Mali today. During the visit the South African leader held talks with the Malian authorities, notably President Alpha Oumar Konare and Prime Minister Ibrahim Boubacar Keita. Mandela's last engagement during the visit was the official inauguration this morning of Nelson Mandela School. [passage omitted]

Mali and South Africa signed a protocol agreement this morning. The cooperation agreement was initiated for Mali by Mohamed Ag Erlaf, Minister of public works

and transport, and for South Africa by Foreign Minister Alfred Nzo.

**Togo: South African President Mandela Arrives for Brief Visit**

*MB0403134496 Johannesburg SAPA in English  
1306 GMT 4 Mar 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] PYA, TOGO March 4 SAPA-AFP — South African President Nelson Mandela arrived Monday in this town 400 kilometres (250 miles) north of Lome on a flying visit of a few hours to Togo.

Togo President Gnassingbe Eyadema and Prime Minister Edem Kodjo welcomed Mandela. During the visit to Pya, home town of the Togo president, Mandela and Eyadema would be undertaking a review of the situation in West Africa, official sources said. Mandela's tour has already taken him to Mali and he was scheduled to return to South Africa later Monday.

**Togo: Eyadema, South Africa's Mandela Issue Joint Communiqué**

*AB0503110196 Lome Radio Lome in French  
1900 GMT 4 Mar 96*

[Joint communiqué issued by Togolese President Gnassingbe Eyadema and South African President Nelson Mandela at Pya on 4 March; read by Togolese Minister of State in Charge of foreign Affairs Barry Moussa Barque — live or recorded]

[FBIS Translated Text] At the invitation of Togolese President Gnassingbe Eyadema, South African President Nelson Mandela paid a friendly and working visit to Togo on 4 March. During his visit, the two heads of state exchanged views on issues of common interest at the bilateral, continental, and international levels.

Regarding bilateral relations, Presidents Mandela and Eyadema expressed the wish to develop the links of friendship and cooperation between their two countries. In this regard, they decided to establish diplomatic relations between the Republic of South Africa [RSA] and the Republic of Togo.

Examining the situation in the continent, the two presidents strongly deplored the persisting hotbeds of tension in Liberia, Sierra Leone, Rwanda, Burundi, and Somalia. They reiterated that no development is possible without peace, security, and stability. They urged the protagonists of all the conflicts to give precedence to dialogue and consultation in settling their differences so that the resources of our states can be devoted to the priority task of development. In this context, they solemnly appealed to their peers on the continent to work together so as to translate into reality the

idea of setting up an African peace force which will reinforce the OAU mechanisms for the prevention, management, and settlement of conflicts in Africa. The two heads of state agreed to increase, outside the institutional framework, initiatives of informal meetings and exchange of views in order to be conversant with the secrets of African preventive diplomacy and to enable the continent itself to prioritize peaceful solutions to its problems.

Speaking about the economic crisis affecting our continent, convinced that the development of African countries can only be achieved within the framework of economic blocks, the two heads of state reaffirmed their faith in the noble objectives that the Southern African Development Coordination Conference and the Economic Community of West African States of which South Africa and Togo are respectively members, in order to speed up the economic development process in Africa.

At the international level, the two presidents expressed satisfaction with the climate of détente in international relations, notably the improvement in the situation in Bosnia-Herzegovina, with the beginning of the implementation of the Dayton Agreement and that on the Middle East. Regarding the Middle East in particular, the two heads of state deplored the upsurge of violence, which is liable to jeopardize the peace process. They urged the Israeli and Palestinian leaders to continue their efforts so as to put an end to this cycle of violence and restore lasting peace in the region.

Examining the international economic relations, Presidents Mandela and Eyadema expressed their concern for the continuing imbalance in North-South economic relations. In this respect, they insisted on the need to create favorable conditions for the creation of a new economic order based on fairness and equity.

During their discussions, which were marked by cordiality and mutual understanding, Togolese President Gnassingbe Eyadema again paid tribute to RSA President Nelson Mandela, whose fervent nationalism, courage, and fortitude contributed to saving the RSA people from the yoke of apartheid and the promotion of the restoration of a multiracial, free, and democratic society in the RSA.

The RSA president, on his part, congratulated President Eyadema for his relentless commitment to peace and stability in Africa. At the end of his visit, RSA President Nelson Mandela expressed to Togolese President Gnassingbe Eyadema his deep thanks for the warm and truly African reception that he and his delegation were given. His Excellency Nelson Mandela invited his brother and friend, President Gnassingbe Eyadema, to

pay an official visit to the RSA. The Togolese head of state accepted the invitation readily. The date for the visit will be fixed through the diplomatic channel. Issued at Pya on 4 March.

For the RSA, President Nelson Mandela

For the Republic of Togo, President Gnassingbe Eyadema

**Togo: Government Establishes Diplomatic Relations With South Africa**

*MB0403205396 Johannesburg SAPA in English  
2025 GMT 4 Mar 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] PYA, TOGO, March 4 SAPA-AFP — South African President Nelson Mandela and his Togolese counterpart Gnassingbe Eyadema agreed to establish diplomatic relations between their two countries Monday, a joint communique said.

The two leaders held brief discussions during a flying visit by Mandela. The South African president also had a meeting with Jonas Savimbi, leader of the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA), who was also on a visit to this town, 400 kilometres (250 miles) north of Lome. There were no details of Mandela's meeting with the former rebel leader, which

came three days after Savimbi's talks with Angola's President Jose Eduardo dos Santos in Libreville.

The joint communique said the two presidents, visiting Eyadema's home town of Pya, "deplored the continuing tension in Africa, mainly in Liberia, Sierra Leone, Rwanda, Burundi and Somalia." They also appealed to their African counterparts to work towards forming a African peace force to strengthen the Organisation of African Unity (OAU), "for the prevention, management and settlement of conflicts in Africa," the communique said.

Mandela's tour, which had already taken him to Mali, ended with a brief stopover in Abidjan on his return journey to South Africa. He was received at Abidjan airport by Ivorian Prime Minister Daniel Kablan Duncan and other ministers.

When asked by journalists about his health, Mandela, 78, mentioned his need to visit his doctor occasionally but was prevented from elaborating by Ivorian protocol officials who said this was not the kind of question to ask a president. Mandela is to undergo three days of "comprehensive" medical examinations on his return home to dispel persistent rumours that his health is failing, his office said Monday.

**Djibouti****Djibouti: President Returns Home After 3 Month Hospitalization**

AB0403192796 London BBC World Service  
in English 1505 GMT 4 Mar 96

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The people of Djibouti have been waiting with baited breath in anticipation of the return home of President Hassan Gouled Aptidon. He was taken ill during the Francophone summit late last year and has spent the last three months in a French hospital. Well, this morning the head of state touched down at the airport in Djibouti. Our correspondent, Christo Farah, was there and he telexed this report:

An exuberant crowd of supporters, made up of men, women, and school children, were lined up along the presidential route, ready to welcome him. As soon as the presidential motorcade left Djibouti Airport at around 11:15 AM, the marchers went into a chorus of cheers, songs, and slogans, praising the head of state.

To top it off, Djibouti Radio and Television broadcast live commentary and started an all-out media hike which had been set in motion days before. A sizable number of the workers, both in the public and private sector, took the day off to get a glimpse at their returning president.

Today's joy at the president's return is in sharp contrast with the depression that hung over Djibouti town last week following two grenade attacks. The blasts resulted neither in injuries nor damage to property but they did cause many people to yearn for a speedy return of their convalescing president.

His three months of hospitalization away from Djibouti triggered off a flurry of intense speculation about the president's chances of recovering from his undisclosed ailment. Malicious gossip even had it that the president was dead and that the government was concealing the news in the style of the former Soviet Union.

In a short televised address today, thanking the people for the welcome they had given him, President Hassan Gouled ridiculed the rumor mongers. He said: those who alleged that I was in my coffin would have to wait until God terminates my existence on earth.

The 79-year-old president is currently serving his third consecutive six-year term. Elections are not due until April 1999 and because of his age, most political analysts predict that the head of state will now embark on the delicate task of smoothing the way for his successor. This is easier said than done in the light of the political rivalries that rage between leading dignitaries in the ruling RPP [Popular Rally for Progress] party.

**Ethiopia****Ethiopia: Belgium's Moreels Details Financial Aid Contributions**

BR0403164496 Brussels LE SOIR in French  
2-3 Mar 96 p 11

[Report signed Colette Braeckman: "Belgian Support for Great Lakes"]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The African Great Lakes region is the subject of intense diplomatic activity: While the plan for a multinational force proposed by the UN secretary general has been rejected by the Security Council, and while the summit of regional heads of state, which was to have been held on Monday in Tunis, has been canceled at the request of Rwanda, other meetings are being held to assess the situation. Secretary of State for Development Cooperation Reginald Moreels was the only representative of a European government to go to Addis Ababa for a follow-up meeting to the Bujumbura conference on refugees. A political solution is now needed as never before: In 1995 the international community allocated 27 billion Belgian francs (BFR) to providing for Rwandan and Burundian refugees in the region.

Mr. Moreels pointed out to what extent Belgium is committed to preventive diplomacy. A commitment which is just as much financial as political: The mediation mission by former President Nyerere is being financed by Brussels. In addition, BFR5 million in aid has been earmarked for the OAU's Center for Conflict Prevention, BFR30 million for OAU military observers in Burundi, BFR9 million for a human rights chair at the Bujumbura Military Academy, BFR10 million for the committee of inquiry into the assassination of President Ndadaye, BFR30 million for human rights observers in Rwanda, additional support of BFR50 million for the international criminal tribunal for Rwanda, and BFR20 million to relaunch the judiciary in Rwanda. Belgium will also be maintaining its contributions to catering for refugees in Zaire and Tanzania. At the present time, when both the International War Crimes Tribunal and the UNHCR are complaining of a lack of funds, Belgium is certainly one of the countries which is most committed.

**Kenya****Kenya: Moi Tells Rwanda To Explain Diplomats' Roles**

EA0503111696 Nairobi KNA in English  
1845 GMT 4 Mar 96

[FBIS Transcribed Excerpt] Nairobi 4 Mar (KNA) — [passage omitted] The president was speaking when he

was on an inspection tour of development projects in Gatundu division of Thika district. [passage omitted]

President Moi at the same time told the Rwandan Government to explain the exact roles of its diplomats, one of whom has been implicated in attempted murder charges. The president expressed concern that the diplomatic immunity was being used as a cover-up to commit serious crimes on Kenyan soil. He urged the Rwandan embassy in Nairobi to lift diplomatic immunity on the diplomat with immediate effect to facilitate police investigations.

President Moi said Kenya had hosted many Rwandan citizens of all ethnic groups since the 1940's and would not distinguish between one ethnic group and another. [passage omitted]

### Somalia

#### **Somalia: Radio Commentary Reacts to Madeleine Albright Statement**

*EA0403212996 (Clandestine) Radio Mogadishu Voice of the Masses of the Somali Republic in Somali 1700 GMT 4 Mar 96*

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] According to this commentary, the announcement by Madeleine Albright goes no further than her seat and table at the UN headquarters. It is written by Abdullei Mohamed Ma'alim, alias Ifka, and is read by Mohamoud Shaykh Ahmed.

Somali people are very intelligent and they never forget those who do good to them and those who mistreated them or subjected them to suffering. The recent announcement by Madeleine Albright is a joke. She said she is worried about starvation among the Somali people.

Let's look back to the dark role of Madeleine Albright in Somali history. First, she took part in the merciless massacre of Somali people between 5 June and 3 of October 1993 in the unholy alliance of the United States and UNOSOM. [passage omitted]

Madeleine Albright should know that Somalia is an independent country and mid last year, a broad based government was created under the leadership of president Mohamed Farah Aidid and other officials who will never tolerate those who seriously damaged the Somali people and Somalia. [passage omitted]

The UN headquarters has changed today to one of the biggest centers for organizing conspiracies and sabotage against governments who reject their new imperialist based programs. For this reason Madeleine Albright's interference in our internal affairs is very distasteful, backed by Bill Clinton and Butrus Butrus-

Ghali. However she is the medium. But it will never be possible and it is good today that foreign forces have been removed from Somalia. [passage omitted]

#### **Somalia: 19 Pro-Aidid Fighters Said Killed in Fighting 1 Mar**

*EA0303202396 Mogadishu Voice of the Somali Republic in Somali 1700 GMT 3 Mar 96*

[FBIS Translated Text] A spokesman for the RRA [Rahanwein Resistance Army] forces has said that last Friday [1 March] serious fighting that lasted more than three hours took place between the RRA forces and those of Mohamed Farah Aidid 10 km from Daynuunay village in Bay region.

Nineteen of Aidid's group were killed and 13 were injured. The spokesman said that on the RRA side four people died.

The attack by Aidid's group has been repulsed. Aidid's group has recently been engaged in fighting and looting in some districts in Bay and Bakool regions and members of the group are being killed and injured everywhere they go. They do not know why they are fighting and dying. Their fighting is based on expansionism and the creation of enmity among the people.

#### **Somalia: Aidid's SNA Captures Another Southwestern Town**

*AB0403190596 London BBC World Service in English 1505 GMT 4 Mar 96*

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The Somali National Alliance [SNA] led by Mohamed Farah Aidid have extended their grip on the southwest of the country. Since they overran Baidoa almost six months ago, the SNA have clashed from time to time with the Rahanwein Resistance Army [RRA] in the area, but now another town has fallen to Aidid's men. Our Mogadishu correspondent, Ali Musa Abdi, faxed this report:

General Mohamed Farah Aidid, accompanied by more than 400 militiamen with 20 technicals, captured the border town of Doolow yesterday. Gen. Aidid's army faced no resistance from the Rahanwein Resistance Army, the RRA, which had previously held the town. According to a field radio communication monitored in Mogadishu, the RRA militia, who were less well-armed, abandoned the town before Aidid's attack. Only two civilians were killed in the capture of the town, according to the report.

The fall of Doolow to Gen. Aidid is important both in terms of Aidid's territorial expansion and in economic

terms. Doolow is on Somalia's border with Ethiopia and only about 50 km north of the Somalia-Kenya border. The area is noted for substantial commercial traffic, and it is likely that Aidid will impose his taxation program on the area once he has stabilized the area and eliminated opposition. It is also widely believed that Aidid will continue his military campaign in southern Somalia, where he has already made substantial gains since embarking on it six months ago and still aims to capture the major towns of Kismaayo, Baidoa, and (Gabahara). Doolow was the last of the strongholds of the RRA in southwestern Somalia.

### Uganda

#### Uganda: Army Closed Roads to Northern Town Over Weekend

EA0403203796 Kampala THE NEW VISION in English 4 Mar 96 p 1

[Article by Emmy Allio in Gulu: "Army Closes Gulu Roads"]

[FBIS Transcribed Excerpt] Three major roads out of Gulu, including the Gulu-Kampala highway, were closed at the weekend by the Uganda People's Defense Force (UPDF) for security reasons.

They include roads leading to Moroto and Kitgum. The Gulu-Adjumani highway was closed two weeks ago. Traffic to Kampala was, however, cleared by 1630 yesterday.

Dozens of vehicles waited for clearance at the Gulu Park by last evening. It is not clear if the reopening of the Gulu-Kampala road was temporary.

Division One intelligence officer, Major Charles Angina, told THE NEW VISION that he was awaiting a report from the army units deployed along the road before he could allow the vehicles to move.

"If the roads are declared safe, I will allow the vehicles to move, but with military escort. Our cardinal duty is to protect civilians and their property," Angina said.

The roads are said to have been closed following security reports that Kony rebels had (?closed) from their main bases in Kila county in Gulu and were sighted near the closed roads.

On Saturday [2 March] a group of Lord's Resistance Army rebels were seen crossing Gulu-Kitgum road, via Paicho. Security sources in Gulu said they were heading for Ato hills. Another group that crossed the road were said to have entered Aswa ranch yesterday. There is also a third group, reportedly led by Vicent Otti, which is said to have been seen in the Zambia game reserve.

This group, security sources said, is close to Minakulu, where the army and the rebels clashed last week.

An army source said the groups were planning attacks on traffic on the three main highways. [passage omitted]

#### Uganda: Death Toll in Army-Rebel Clash Reaches 88

EA0403204296 Kampala THE MONITOR in English 4 Mar 96 p 1

[Article by Charles Balmoi and James Oweko in Gulu: "Now Atiak Death Toll Climbs to 88"]

[FBIS Transcribed Excerpt] The official death toll in last Thursday's [29 February] battle between Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) rebels and Uganda People's Defense Force (UPDF) troops at Pacilo in Atiak climbed to 88, as a rebel landmine hit an army truck nine kms outside Gulu town.

Minister of State for the Pacification of the North, Mrs. Betty Bigombe, told a rally at Gulu market square Sunday that during the Pacilo battle, 44 rebels were killed and five captured; 32 civilians killed by the rebels while the UPDF lost 12 men and [word indistinct] were wounded. [passage omitted]

Explaining the resurgence of rebel activities, Mrs. Bigombe conceded that the UPDF had relaxed after the SPLA [Sudan People's Liberation Army] had pushed [LRA rebel leader Joseph] Kony deeper into Sudan late last year.

A Fourth Division intelligence officer, Capt Innocent Owula, who also addressed the rally, said Kony's time was up.

"Information available lately says that Kony wants to flee back to Sudan. But let me assure you that the UPDF is determined not to allow him back into Sudan", the captain said. [passage omitted]

Rebels, meanwhile, continue to wreak havoc in the Gulu countryside. Minister Bigombe said that last week they burnt down 520 houses and 487 granaries in Pabbo, west of Gulu town. [passage omitted]

Addressing another rally Friday Gulu deputy resident district commissioner (RDC) Philip Odong, appealed to people who had fled to town to return to their homes. [passage omitted]

But many of those THE MONITOR talked to were reluctant to return to their villages. They were worried about being killed or abducted by the rebels, and what they said were indiscriminate bombing by UPDF helicopter gunships.

**Uganda: Minister Comments on Control of Army if  
Opposition Elected**

EA0503091396 Kampala THE NEW VISION  
in English 4 Mar 96 p 2

[Article by Grace Matsiko and Muwanga-Kakooza: "We  
Will Hand UPDF to DP Chief"]

[FBIS Transcribed Excerpt] The minister of state in  
charge of security, Colonel Kahinda Otafiire, has said  
that government is ready to hand over the Uganda  
People's Defense Force (UPDF) to President General  
of the Democratic Party (DP) Paul Ssemogerere if he  
wins the presidential elections.

But, he said, there's a worry that Dr. Ssemogerere  
may fail to control the Army, which will lead it to  
indiscipline that characterized the previous regimes.

Otafiire was addressing a Kampala district youth lead-  
ers' seminar at City Hall on Friday [1 March]. He said  
"having an army is a political right. But managing it is  
a skill. We don't know whether Ssemogerere will not  
be like Obote, who was prisoner of his forces". [passage  
omitted]

### **Mandela To Undergo 3 Days of Tests To Confirm 'Good Health'**

*MB040313396 Johannesburg SAPA in English  
1327 GMT 4 Mar 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] CAPE TOWN March 4 SAPA — President Nelson Mandela, who returns from a three-day visit to Francophone West Africa on Monday night, will spend the next three days at a Johannesburg private clinic undergoing a battery of tests to confirm he is in good health.

The comprehensive check-up, agreed to by the president and his doctors, would take place on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, the president's office said in a statement.

Namibian President Sam Nujoma is due to arrive on an official visit to South Africa on Wednesday. Whether this will be affected by the president's new programme is not yet sure. "Both the president and the doctors are confident that this routine check-up will confirm that the president is in good health and lay to rest speculation on this matter." The report by Mandela's doctors will be made public once the tests are completed.

President Mandela indicated at a press conference on Friday [1 March] he would undergo a thorough medical examination in an attempt to dispel rumours about his failing health once and for all. The public would believe a report emanating from his doctors that he was healthy, more than denials from his office that he was ill.

On whether Nujoma's visit would be postponed, presidential spokesman Joel Netshitenzhe said the South African and Namibian ministries of Foreign Affairs were consulting, and an announcement would be made soon.

### **South Africa: Official Discusses Mandela's West Africa Visit, Health**

*MB0403141596 Johannesburg SABC 2 Television  
Network in English 0450 GMT 4 Mar 96*

[Interview with South African Deputy Foreign Minister Aziz Pahad, by SABC announcer David Hall-Green, on the "Good Morning South Africa" program — live]

[FBIS Transcribed Excerpt] [Hall-Green] With President Mandela's visit to Mali and Togo, at the moment, it's clear that South African relations with the rest of Africa are coming into sharp focus. In the studio, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Aziz Pahad. Good morning, Mr. Pahad.

[Pahad] Good morning, David.

[Hall-Green] What is the significance of these particular two countries, Mali and Togo? They are not exactly the

great movers and shakers of the African continent. Why is the president there?

[Pahad] Well, firstly, you must accept that South Africa is now a very important player on the African continent, and until very recently most of the African countries had no political, diplomatic, or economic relations with us, and this is especially true of West Africa. We have got very little contact, we have got very few embassies, we had very few embassies, and this is part of our general planning for the president's visit, and other ministers' visit to that part of Africa, West Africa, in order to develop contacts, consolidate our relations, and get to know the region better. We believe there's tremendous opportunities in West Africa that we have not yet exploited, and that's both politically and economically, and this visit of the president is a beginning of a process in West Africa that we are going to undertake this year.

[Hall-Green] So it's more of a goodwill, an initiating kind of a visit than anything else.

[Pahad] Well, from political goodwill comes economic benefits. Our trade relations with West African countries has literally snowballed in the last few years since relations have started, and I think many of our companies are already working in West African countries. Companies like Gencor, JCI [Johannesburg Consolidated Investments], Anglo-American, are but some of the names that are actively involved in the mining industry in West Africa.

[Hall-Green] You know, with constant mention of the moral effects that our president's visit to various countries can have on those countries — like Nigeria recently with all of those problems — one's tempted to ask, perhaps rather cynically, what is in it for us?

[Pahad] Well, for us it's several things. Firstly, as I said, we want to consolidate our political relations, and on the basis of that, we want to expand our economic relations, which have quite phenomenal potentials, and thirdly, we're interested in having a continent that is at peace with itself. Any disquiet, any disorder in any part of Africa affects South African development, whether its for investment's sake, whether it's our trading links, and therefore for us it is a broad process of having an African continent that is at peace, and therefore able to exploit its economic potential.

[Hall-Green] Has the Department of Foreign Affairs embarked on a specific course to increase ties with Francophone Africa?

[Pahad] Yes. In fact the minister, Foreign Minister Nzo has just returned from the OAU ministerial meeting, and went immediately with the president to West Africa, and we've got an overall program in order to extend

our links with West Africa. As I said earlier, we've had no previous links, we don't know the region, they don't know us. West Africa is very important in the OAU and United Nations, and therefore, we have a well-established strategic plan to develop our links with West Africa. [passage omitted]

[Hall-Green] We've got very high unemployment at the moment, and South Africa, as we know, is the flavor of the month at the moment. Everybody wants a slice of the action and people are rather descending like swarms of locusts on this country. Is there not a danger that as we open up and make contact with more and more countries that this is going to be a increasing problem?

[Pahad] That is precisely the point, David, because our Reconstruction and Development Program cannot succeed unless we tackle the issue of investments and trade participation.

[Hall-Green, interrupting] What about illegal immigration?

[Pahad] No, that is a problem that's worldwide, its an international problem. To solve the problem of illegal immigration, we must ensure that Africa as a whole develops. If you don't do that, you will not solve the problem of illegal immigration. It's in our own interest to develop our relations with Africa and make Africa a prosperous continent, and we are totally committed in foreign policy perspectives to develop our links with Africa so that it can be mutually advantageous both politically and economically.

[Hall-Green] People who've been dubbed mischief-makers — some of them at any rate — have been putting out, it is said, rumors about the president's health. To what extent is this a part of squashing of the rumors, him going out on trips like these?

[Pahad] No, trips like these are planned well ahead of any rumors. I think the very fact that the president is able to make such trips — next week we will be welcoming President Sam Nujoma to South Africa. A few days later the president will going to the first official visit to Angola. I think it's a reflection the president's health being very good, and it's no attempt to try to hide the truth. I think the president is very healthy, he is taking the lead in expanding our relations with other countries, and we at Foreign Affairs are very happy that we have but such a good diplomat.

[Hall-Green] Mr. Pahad, thank you very much for being with us this morning. We wish you a good day.

[Pahad] Thank you, David.

[Hall-Green] Aziz Pahad, deputy minister of foreign affairs.

**South Africa: Namibian President's Visit Delayed by Mandela Medical Exam**

*MB0403153896 Johannesburg SAPA in English*  
*1536 GMT 4 Mar 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] PRETORIA March 4 SAPA — South Africa has postponed Namibian President Sam Nujoma's state visit to allow President Nelson Mandela to undergo a medical examination, the Department of Foreign Affairs said on Monday. Nujoma planned to visit South Africa from Wednesday [6 March] to Friday this week.

Mandela would undergo a "comprehensive check-up, agreed to between the president and his doctors, entailing routine medical tests" during this time, a statement from Foreign Affairs said. "It was with great regret that President Mandela was obliged to inform President Nujoma of these circumstances which made it impossible for him to host President Nujoma during his state visit to South Africa." Nujoma's visit would be rescheduled, Foreign Affairs said.

Apparently anxious to avoid speculation Mandela may be ill, Foreign Affairs gave an assurance there was nothing to worry about regarding Mandela's health. "I can assure you one hundred percent there is nothing to worry about," Deputy Foreign Affairs Minister Aziz Pahad told SAPA.

Mandela was due to return to South Africa late on Monday night from a three-day visit to Mali and Togo.

**South Africa: Foreign Minister States 'Revulsion' at Bombings in Israel**

*MB0403170996 Johannesburg SAPA in English*  
*1645 GMT 4 Mar 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] PRETORIA March 4 SAPA — Foreign Affairs Minister Alfred Nzo on Monday expressed South Africa's "revulsion" at the bomb blasts in Israel on Sunday and Monday which killed at least 29 people and left scores injured.

"Our revulsion at these cowardly acts is surpassed only by our desire to see the unremitting continuation of the quest for a lasting negotiated peace in that region," said Nzo in a statement. Nzo urged those involved in the Middle East peace process not to be diverted by extremist actions.

**South Africa: Northwest Premier Confident About Cooperation With Cuba**

*MB0203174796 Johannesburg SAfm Radio Network*  
*in English 1600 GMT 2 Mar 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Northwest Premier Popo Molefe has expressed confidence about future coop-

eration between South Africa and Cuba following his recent visit to that country. A business delegation accompanying him on the visit held talks with the Cubans on investment and marketing opportunities in several sectors. Mr. Molefe said on his return this morning that South Africa would be able to sell more agricultural products such as maize, tobacco, sunflower oil, and fertilizer to Cuba in future. Mr. Molefe also said that his province had signed a twinning agreement with the province of Santiago de Cuba to provide for personnel exchanges and economic and commercial links, as well as developmental, sport, culture, education, and health cooperation.

**South Africa: Secret Police Surveillance Facility Said Monitoring People**

*MB0203135996 Cape Town CAPE TIMES in English 27 Feb 96 p 1*

[Report by Jacki Cameron]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] As the bugging controversy rages between police and politicians, the CAPE TIMES has found the SA [South Africa] Police Service's top secret surveillance facility close to the city centre.

Detectives are listening to telephone conversations and tuning in to room bugs as they monitor underhand dealings from this high security, covert operations centre which extends across two nondescript buildings.

The exact location of the technical support services (TSS) unit is known only to a select group of security-cleared police members.

The CAPE TIMES has agreed not to disclose its whereabouts because the unit commander, Senior Superintendent Len Nel, has said he firmly believes this could jeopardise police investigations into sophisticated crime syndicates.

The CAPE TIMES investigation follows an Independent Newspapers expose that South Africa's intelligence community are randomly intercepting thousands of international and local telephone calls from a top secret facility in Gauteng.

There is also a heated war of words between national Police Commissioner George Fivaz [words indistinct] over whether the National Intelligence Agency has bugged the offices of senior police officers.

A cautious Nel agreed to take the CAPE TIMES on a partial tour of the buildings. He said: "We have nothing to hide. However, if you publish certain things it might hamper investigations.

"We want to say as little as possible because we do not want sophisticated criminals knowing what our

capabilities are. We cannot expose the people doing the job or the methods used.

"We are not the investigating officers. We just render certain services to the investigators within the guidelines of the law."

Detectives apply, through this unit, for permission from a certain Pretoria-based judge to undertake covert surveillance of a suspect.

The South African narcotics bureau, the diamond and gold unit and the organised crime investigation unit were among the specialised police branches which regularly called on TSS to help them in their investigations, Nel said.

Once permission had been granted, detectives went to "monitoring facilities" at the TSS offices.

A specialist technician, together with Telkom [Telecommunications Corporation] officials, would tap someone's line and record conversations in a "classified and strictly out-of-bounds" room. Nel said only TSS staff were allowed in this room.

"They may not, and do not listen to these recordings. Tapes are handed over to investigating officers from other units who then listen to the tapes in special sound-proof rooms."

At least 100 people had been monitored since the inception of TSS in October 1994.

Nel said "99.9% were monitored for criminal matters" and declined to explain why the other people were monitored — but said it had "nothing to do with politics".

Politicians might be monitored, but only if suspected of crime-related activities.

**South Africa: Intelligence Agents Appear Before Parliamentary Committee**

*MB0503071696 Johannesburg SABC 2 Television Network in English 0400 GMT 4 Mar 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Allegations of spying on the top-brass of the police comes under the spotlight today. Operatives of the government's intelligence network are expected to give evidence to the parliamentary committee on intelligence. Intelligence agents will appear behind closed doors following reports that Police Commissioner George Fivaz and several provincial commissioners were subjects of electronic surveillance. Meanwhile, intelligence agency operative Dirk Coetzee is one of those implicated in spying on Fivaz. He claims to have undergone a lie detector test and has denied any involvement in spying.

**South Africa: ANC, NP Hold 'Private Talks' Near Cape Town**

MB0503084396 Johannesburg SAPA in English  
0604 GMT 05 Mar 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] CAPE TOWN March 4 SAPA — The African National Congress and National Party were locked in private talks at a secluded coastal hamlet near Cape Town on Monday to resolve critical outstanding issues for South Africa's final constitution.

A source close to the constitution-writing process said it was believed that Monday's bilateral — expected to continue into the evening — was aimed at thrashing out an agreement on provincial powers.

The parties are expected to report back to the Constitutional Assembly's [CA] streamlining negotiating committee on Wednesday when it is to discuss the sections of the new constitution on provincial competencies and the second house of Parliament. The parties are edging closer to agreement on the structure of the second house, accepting that provinces should have a greater degree of direct representation in it, sources said on Monday. However, the question of provincial powers was likely to be a much harder nut to crack, one source said.

It appeared the major parties had accepted that the Inkatha Freedom Party [IFP] was unlikely to return to the national constitution-writing process in time to become involved in its finalisation, another source said. However, the IFP could become involved in future amendments of the constitution.

Last month CA chairman Cyril Ramaphosa urged parties to do their utmost to reach agreement on outstanding issues by March 14 when the CA's management committee is to review progress in the light of the looming May 9 deadline for finalising the constitution.

The committee is to discuss outstanding aspects of the bill of rights on Tuesday.

**South African Press Review for 4 Mar**

MB0403125796

[FBIS Report]

**THE STAR**

No Special Treatment on EU Trade Talks — Johannesburg THE STAR in English on 4 March in a page-12 editorial notes President Mandela's remarks that "no-

body should expect that South Africa, SA, is just going to sail through these problems," when he commented on the news that South Africa's trade talks with the EU had remained "bogged down." THE STAR advises South African diplomats to lobby the member states of the European Council "individually" and every South African ambassador to the EU "should know as much about the trade talks as the mission in Brussels." THE STAR believes "we should not expect special treatment. It is naive to think that Europe owes us a good deal; also naive to point fingers at France, the country that has questioned the proposed deal most closely. The French are being typically French and are not about to become unFrench because they are dealing with SA. It's the real world out there."

**SOWETAN**

Government 'Pussy-Footing' on Schools Discrimination — "The Government is pussy-footing with racists who are discriminating against black schoolchildren, to such an extent that it is an embarrassment," declares Johannesburg SOWETAN in English on 4 March in a page-8 editorial. The paper notes the "sickening" situation in Grobblersdal "where black children are forced to be at school before their white schoolmates arrive, are forced to take classes separately from white children in one classroom and are confined to one part of the school yard during breaks." "Why the Government is allowing this to happen almost two years after taking office, boggles the mind. Or is this a signal that they are in office but not in power?"

**THE CITIZEN**

Call for Government Transparency in Allocation of Funds — Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English on 1 March in its page-6 editorial is not surprised that the predominantly ANC National Assembly "has rejected the call for the suspension of Health Minister, Dr Nkosazana Zuma, and for a judicial inquiry into the staging of the R14.2 million [rand] Sarafina II AIDS musical." "Not surprisingly because the ANC, though dedicated to openness and transparency, never admits that anything done by it or its ministers can be wrong." "Let Dr Zuma answer to the complaints made against Sarafina II, including the manner in which the tender was awarded to the playwright Mbongeni Ngema, and the huge wastage of funds allocated to the musical. It is what open, transparent government is all about."

**Mozambique: Chissano Delivers State of the Nation Address**

*MB0103134296 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network in Portuguese 0945 GMT 29 Feb 96*

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Dear Assembly of the Republic chairman, prime minister, Supreme Court chairman, attorney general, cabinet members, deputies, diplomatic corps members, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen, comrades, and friends:

Approximately one year ago, on 21 March 1995, we had occasion to address the Assembly of the Republic in terms of Paragraph B of Article 120 of the Constitution of the Republic. We had just emerged from a most encouraging national, social, and political program which strengthened the peace process, the country's stability, and multiparty democratic structures and bodies. It also helped define the most pressing priorities to which we should direct our efforts, our limited materials and financial resources.

At the time, the country conveyed the image of a dying and pro-state giant who had suffered many different blows. This giant was trying to recover from its multiple economic, political, and social wounds. Since then, we have shown an unending potential to reestablish our people and country. The country has indeed reemerged since then, regaining its shape and strength, and finding answers to the many challenges posed by peace consolidation, and socioeconomic development efforts.

Thus, it is with great pleasure and satisfaction that again we address your excellencies, the deputies, to apprise you of the state of the nation. During this period, the country was awoken to feelings of hope brought about by the end of the war and the tangible rewards our production efforts yielded. The people approached their tasks with ever greater enthusiasm and vigor. They believe it is possible to build a better future and they believe they can be the main builders of that future.

From Rovuma River to Maputo River, more and more children are going to school, thereby challenging the government to provide an educational space for all people seeking an education. Universities and other higher learning institutions have not been able to absorb the rising number of applicants. This clearly shows that there is a pressing need to continue looking for solutions to satisfy our people's educational fervor.

Workers, peasants, and people in the industrial sector are showing a dedicated approach to production, and are courageously facing the enormous difficulties and insufficiencies we continue to suffer from in all sectors. In addition, they have a positive approach to the distortions and negative trends caused by survival on

foreign aid, which we were getting increasingly used to.

You cannot measure the value of peace and we did not have it for a long time, but we have enjoyed it during this period. We have coexisted in it and we have become drunk in its sea of tranquillity. Peace has had a beneficial impact on all sectors. This peace has been possible thanks to the spirit with which we held our exemplary and orderly 1994 general multiparty elections, and our politicians' efforts, responsible action, and continued commitment to its preservation. Civilian society and the citizens at large have also made every effort to keep it alive.

Thanks to peace, peasants can now go greater distances without experiencing danger and can expand their production space. Traders have been reopening shops and canteens in out-of-the-way areas, thereby keeping people supplied with indispensable goods. Peace now allows transporters to travel to our country's most remote areas, therefore keeping people linked who could not communicate in the past. More war-paralyzed textile factories have resumed production and they are using locally obtained raw materials, therefore offering better job prospects and a greater availability of goods in our market. Peace has also allowed more and more schools and hospitals to reopen in all parts of Mozambique, extending the benefits of formal education and health care to an ever greater portion of our people.

Many died, and many more lost everything they owned so peace could be achieved. All of us made some effort toward peace. We must work to maintain and strengthen this peace. Our fertile and generous land continued to feel the effects of the drought which hit southern Africa during much of the period in reference, yielding very little for our peasant's efforts, tenacity, and persistence in extracting the things needed for survival and prosperity. The abundant rains which fell during the latter part of this year were accompanied by climatic adversities which claimed lives, made many homeless, destroyed property, and caused floods which ravaged plantations, and thwarted the productive efforts of many of our people. Equally intense rainfall in neighboring countries also increased the stream levels of international rivers which end in our country, seriously aggravating Cyclone Bonita's effects. The government had to announce a special state of alert and activate mechanisms to prevent natural disasters.

Some low-lying areas in southern and central Mozambique, notably those near the Limpopo, Incomati, Pungue, Buzi, and Zambeze Rivers, experienced floods and worrisome farming losses. Specialist military units were sent in and helicopters came from South Africa

to provide support for people in those areas and rescue their property.

Despite everything, these setbacks did not irreversibly damage the awesome work done by most of our productive population. Despite this situation and the threat of further rains, the country at large gained more than it lost and the promise of a good agricultural yield remains alive. Our people tried to extract whatever advantages they could from these rains, despite all sorts of agricultural tools, seeds, and pesticide shortages.

Green fields brimming with corn, sorghum, [words indistinct], sunflower, and other grains in many [words indistinct] the country bear witness to the people's commitment to the treatment of productive and fertile land. There is another side to this picture, though: Many people have suffered because of the floods. Many lost their property and their plantations.

We hereby call on Mozambique's civilian society and the international community at large to be generous and donate goods, food, and money so those people can rapidly reestablish their lives. Also, all of us must make every effort to repair damaged infrastructure.

It is of the greatest importance that we equip our peasants with a greater knowledge of agricultural techniques meeting our realistic [words indistinct], we must provide our peasants with an adequate rural extension service and the means to fight the main pests and diseases affecting our agricultural sector so their work will yield even better results, and contribute to increased food reserves which will strengthen our people's food security. This is a challenge we have accepted and we will continue to make every effort to achieve it.

The industry, [words indistinct] deficiencies, insufficiencies, and shortages requiring our urgent and continued attention.

Over this period, the government [words indistinct] of its [words indistinct] the strengthening of democracy and national unity, economic development; and the reintegration and normalization of our citizens' lives. However, these goals will be achieved only with the involvement of all citizens and with the creation of a climate permitting openness, freedom to discuss ideas, and constructive queries by all involved in its implementation and benefiting from its results.

Our people, whether individually or through civic associations, political parties, or the [words indistinct] in the widespread debate [words indistinct] public affairs.

The government acted in accordance with its duty to have greater transparency in its actions. It facilitated and encouraged that debate. To that extent, it provided

the public with necessary and regular information so it could follow the government's performance. The need to consolidate national reconciliation makes it necessary for dialogue to continue and strengthen dialogue between the press and the people, whether the latter act individually or through [words indistinct] or through the media.

In a bid to strengthen this debate, we have planned meetings for this year to ascertain the views of representatives of civilian society, [words indistinct] the media, social and professional organizations [words indistinct] institutions, and of the citizens at large. We believe that more and more of this type of contact, together with other forms of dialogue in other social sectors, will lead to the necessary symbiosis so that we can consolidate national unity.

However, it is important to stress that this dialogue must be more mature, honest, responsible, and patriotic so we can achieve greater social harmony and peace. Because we are acting on the assumption that [words indistinct] the common good, the discussion and free expression of ideas must necessarily be constructive and occur in a climate of mutual respect [words indistinct] not frustrated in their aspirations. To that end, it must be able to use with the necessary effectiveness and force all governance mechanisms in its hands. Aimless liberalism, obstructionist anarchy, and criticism for the sake of criticism alone will not help us move forward.

As we have done in the past, we must continue to nurture the things that unite us so we can secure greater freedom and prosperity for all.

The Assembly of the Republic showed its vigor as an institution reflecting the people's wishes. It played a most important role in the achievement of much-needed national consensus. This sovereign body's work only further legitimized our institutions and [words indistinct] have brought to light our society's differences of approach, perception, priority, and interests. These differences reflect our reality's complexity. Far from being a source of dismay, such differences must encourage us to continue following the path of dialogue to ensure that better ideas prevail and others wait for better days.

The fact that this democratic dialogue has led to final agreements which allowed us to pursue our national goals is evidence that our deputies have acted in the nation's best interests. This has been a wide-ranging and mature debate, a real school for learning, exchanging experiences, and achieving mutual knowledge. We have [words indistinct] enlightened and enriched by this debate. This has been [words indistinct] bring to light common points that [words indistinct] debate has allowed us to grow as individuals, as a people, and as a

nation. It is important that we improve discussion, perfect the way in which we express ourselves, and use time more economically without, however, cutting down on the time we need to make our ideas and messages clear, so we can achieve national consensus.

The government has made an effort to upgrade the Assembly of the Republic technically and materially to enable it to play a better role. This year we will make more efforts, within the limitations of the General State Budget and our capacity, to have our international partners interested in the process of consolidation of our multiparty democracy. Relations between Parliament and the government were also underlined during this period. It was a relationship of cooperation between two state organs which complemented each other. Only by working together will the two achieve their constitutional purposes. The idea of independent powers in which each sovereign organ carries out its functions as if it were a closed compartment without any concern for the operations of its adjacent organ is an illusion and a mistake that should be avoided. Far from operating antagonistically, the sovereign organs should function in solidarity and complement each other. The government presented its [word indistinct] with transparency and in a detailed way, and this is a healthy procedure that should be encouraged, since it equips our deputies with the necessary instruments to critically analyze the government's [word indistinct]. This enables the citizens to follow closely the implementation of the government's program and influences positively the government.

Mr. Speaker, ladies and gentlemen: the upholding of law and order is a vital for the survival of our institutions, our democratic values, and our individual and collective achievements. The security of the citizen and his property, the guarantee of his physical integrity and the inner peace necessary for normal productive activities is still being disturbed by criminals who challenge the established legal order. Taking advantage of our shortcomings and the fragility of our institutions, agents of organized crime have been using our country as a destination point. The seizure and destruction of about 40 tonnes of hashish in the Mozambican capital which were packed and ready to be exported, the destruction of a chemical laboratory in circumstances yet to be clarified in court, and the continuous detention of citizens caught distributing drugs in schools and other youth centers, clearly shows how big the problem of production, traffic, and consumption of drugs is in our country. The culprits, some of whom are in our country and others who are on the run, will in due time answer for their crimes and damages caused to the country, the society, our families, and future generations. These

criminals, who are still roaming on our streets and attending public places, mingle with honest people. They should be isolated, their crimes unmasked and denounced so that they can be punished. This should happen to those who stole corn at Maputo Harbor, those who took part in that crime, those who used their positions to cheat mechanisms of control and stole corn destined to alleviate hunger in thousands of citizens. These crimes should be strongly denounced and the siege over those involved should be tightened so that none of them escape punishment. The law should be implacable. The government structures, courts, political forces, and the society should cooperate in a special way against criminals whose actions are very harmful to the population. In the fight against this kind of crime there should be no mitigation. False appeals and opportunism on behalf of human rights by criminals who are so harmful to our society that they should not be tolerated.

The government is paying attention to another kind of crime: corruption. It is with great concern that we see corruption spreading in our society as a cancer which slowly destroys cells and vital organs of our organism. Corruption is a direct affront on our ethics and moral, and threatens the interests of the state, nation, and citizens. So, it is everyone's duty to fight corruption energetically to restore to our country's dignity. The government is speeding up the implementation of measures and preparing a complementary bill to effectively combat corruption at all levels. The drafting of these measures is in an advanced stage and will soon be submitted to Parliament for approval. We are convinced that with the approval of these proposals and if all institutions are alert, there will be discipline and morality, and there will be professional ethics in all government structures and in society in general. Legislation will not be effective if the state apparatus structures and various companies, from the grassroots to the top, are not aware of the damages caused by corruption on individuals and the population in general. There is a need for serious debate on corruption, continuous improvement of organization and efficiency at work, constant self-control, permanent supervision and inspection as ways to prevent and defend ourselves against corruption. We need to develop mechanisms which will enable us to detect corruption at an early stage in order to help one another get rid of it. We should not be content merely with punishing corrupt people, our major victory should be in prevention rather than repression of corruption. This is a task for everyone.

There continues to be many types of weapons and ammunition spread throughout the country, even though the war ended more than three years ago. Furthermore, the defense and security forces have no control over

these weapons. Police, civilian society, and humanitarian organizations have all made efforts to contain crime and collect weapons and the results have been positive. However, the forces of law and order continue to come upon instances in which criminals use firearms to carry out their illegal acts. In view of this, there is still a great deal to be done to retrieve weapons from criminal hands.

We have allocated more human and material resources to the police and to our judicial institutions so they can wage a more effective struggle against crime. The government also has used international cooperation to strengthen its efforts in this area. Joint work with Swaziland and South Africa law forces has produced very positive results and helped contain the smuggling of weapons, drugs, and stolen vehicles. In addition, it has helped identify those responsible and their hideouts.

In addition to cooperation with Spain, the Mozambican Government has sought help from Germany, Portugal, France, and other countries to help make our police force more effective. Let us not forget, however, that the success of this project does not hinge solely on the professional and technical capacity of our police force or the courts, or yet on international cooperation. To succeed, people must improve their organization in the wards, apartment blocks, and villages. They must be vigilant against strange or suspicious behavior. They must link more closely with the forces of law and order. Whenever such cooperation and coordination was possible, police managed great successes against criminals acting individually or collectively. These criminals were a source of terror to our people. This type of coordination is to become more organized.

This year, we will work more closely with the defense and security forces the better to learn of their situation, thereby helping those forces improve their performance.

Despite our material and financial limitations, and the policy to contain military expenditure in favor of the socioeconomic sector, we are also working to improve the lot of the Mozambique Defense Armed Forces, FADM. We have embarked on significant work in the area of organization. More will be done and with more palpable results when the Assembly of the Republic has approved the relevant laws. To this end, the government has already presented to the Assembly a draft law concerning the creation of the National Defense and Security Council, a consultative body that will work with the head of state in defense and security affairs, which should foster a more dynamic approach to the study of our country's defense and security problems.

The government has paid particular attention to the Dombe, Maringue, and Gorongosa incidents; attacks on

vehicles; armed robberies; and the killing of citizens on our roads. Our defense and security forces have detected evidence which makes it clear beyond doubt that these are acts of armed banditry by groups that failed to surrender their weapons when they should have. These bandits are using those weapons to illegally enrich themselves. Furthermore, these developments have taken on political overtones. Regarding the Dombe and National Route One instances, our defense and security forces detected the presence of foreign elements commonly known as Chimwenje [Torch]. In addition to vigorous action by police to detect and neutralize those groups, as well as to restore law and order, the government is working together with the Zimbabwean Government to settle the Chimwenje issue.

In addition to representing a provocation to the instituted authorities, the Dombe, Maringue, and Gorongosa incidents are full of political implications which the government examined in depth. The government concluded that this way of conveying political stands is unacceptable, both in terms of the law and of the political order currently in force in this country. Those incidents allowed us to deduce that the citizens' fundamental rights and freedoms have been grossly abused. In addition, these were deliberate actions to obstruct and hinder the government's efforts to extend food, clothing, health care, and education to the people. They also undermined the government's efforts to restore our commercial network and rebuild socioeconomic infrastructure and other amenities so necessary to the normalization of life and development promotion. Under normal circumstances, such behavior would have been punished with all legal might. Instead, the government gave it special treatment. The legacy of war makes us aware that we must remain calm and be thoughtful in our approach to such problems. To that end, instead of embarking on operations of widespread repression which would cause unnecessary upheavals in our society, we decided to follow a selective approach that was carefully studied and is aimed at well defined objectives so we do not allow harmful elements — including the so-called Chimwenje — to escape. At the same time, we will be acting to prevent innocent people from suffering further. We will continue to act this way to the extent that it is prudent and in the national interest.

[Words indistinct] with places and Mozambique National Resistance [Renamo] men, the government first chose to follow a path of dialogue and political sensitization before it resorted to force to restore the law. In our various meetings with the Renamo leader over the last year, he dissociated himself and his party from those actions, which he condemned and found repulsive. Even though he admitted that Renamo men might

be involved, he made it clear that they were acting on their own, thereby contravening Renamo's practices and orders in the wake of the signing of the General Peace Accord. Our country cannot tolerate this situation much longer. The interests of the State and the lives of our citizens are being harmed by this type of behavior. It is time that all citizens without exception behave in an urbane and civil manner when relating to other citizens.

The country has the necessary political openness and the right mechanisms to accommodate all citizens — individually or otherwise — wishing to convey their points of view in the pursuance of their political ideals. They must use those legal mechanisms instead of resorting to actions of intimidation or physical and psychological terrorism against the people. Such actions are not in line with the peace efforts of our people. Speaking of the name of our people, some political, civic, and humanitarian organizations — even certain individuals who claim to uphold democracy and human rights — try to instill a spirit of subversion and violence in our people.

The people know how to distinguish the wheat from the chaff. They know that such pronouncements are opportunistic and have no aim other than to satisfy the desire for glory and fame of those who make them. It is important that these visionaries realize the people have different plans: They want peace because that is the only thing that can end their suffering, poverty, and socioeconomic uncertainty. What the people want are valid and constructive ideas that can help achieve peace. Criticism is a healthy thing when it is well meant and done in a positive manner. Different ideas, even when they are quite opposed, are also healthy things as long as they seek to build and strengthen the spirit of peace, harmony, and national unity.

However, inciting people to subversion and violence is harmful to democracy, even when such calls are made indirectly or referred to as a mere possibility. We have taken seriously the Renamo leader's offer to help identify and eliminate arms caches, irrespective of who may be responsible for such arms caches. At our latest meeting with Mr. Afonso Dhlakama, we decided to create a working group which will include Renamo members who will help identify and eliminate arms caches, thereby reducing the possibility of weapons being used to carry out more criminal actions.

Land mines are yet another threat against our citizens because they were planted in many parts of the country and are a source of psychological instability to our citizens, particularly those who live in the rural areas. Their very productive work is affected by the presence of mines. It is estimated that mined areas are extensive

and mine removal operations are extremely expensive. [passage omitted]

A better educated youth will be another step toward crime prevention. It will foster respect for our society's cultural values and it will encourage them to pursue their goals in the academic, productive, sporting, cultural, and defense sectors. [passage omitted]

Dear Assembly of the Republic chairman, your excellencies: The government's five-year plan proved to be correctly adjusted to social and economic reality. Its branching off into annual social and economic plans made it an indispensable guide and an instrument of obligatory consultation that has allowed us to make the best possible use of our scarce resources and maximize the use of the fruits of our efforts. In its implementation of its five-year program, the government has systematically sought to develop human resources; rehabilitate infrastructure that can promote and facilitate social and economic development; promote food self-sufficiency through sustained support for the family in the agricultural sector; create a climate conducive to private investment; and productively apply our surplus resources. The fact that this year revealed good economic performance, reflected in significant growth in just about all economic and social sectors, is clear proof that we are on the right path, which we will continue to follow with enthusiasm and perseverance. We are aware that our growth is far from satisfying our growing needs.

Our work force, the land, and our immense potential can yield far more than we have managed so far. During this period, our people showed yet again they are our principal source of development. We must invest in them so they know more about science, technology, and culture, and enjoy better health. This is the best way to ensure increased production and productivity, as well as to ensure our economic and social liberation, thereby guaranteeing continued progress on the basis of sustainable development. [passage omitted]

Over this period, the government disengaged from direct economic and productive activities and continued to sell State-owned companies to concentrate on the effort to rebuild infrastructure that will support and facilitate development. The main idea continues to be to prepare conditions that will lead to the emergence of a private, productive, dynamic, and competitive national sector that can satisfy the national market and keep it supplied with goods and services on a sustainable basis, thereby contributing to the country's general development. It is with satisfaction that we continue to see that 90 percent of all privatized small- and medium-sized companies were bought by Mozambican citizens. It is important

to ensure that those companies develop and remain as much as possible in the hands of Mozambican citizens.

The completion of Dona Ana Bridge's rehabilitation project; the continuation of work to rebuild powerlines to South Africa, and powerlines linking Cahora Bassa Dam and Zimbabwe; the rehabilitation and reopening of about 1,900 km of roads; and the routine maintenance of more than 5,000 km roads stand out among the government's efforts to put the country back on its feet.

The fight against unemployment remains a major challenge. The government's employment policies have aimed principally at ensuring the social and economic reintegration of demobilized soldiers, and creating jobs to absorb as many jobless as possible. To this end, we have continued to train demobilized soldiers, to distribute working tools, making financial grants to the self-employed, and other related efforts. We continue to encourage those involved in the productive sector to employ those demobilized soldiers who are worst off and lack the means to use their own initiative. In addition, the rehabilitation of roads and agro-industrial companies have been other sources of employment to our surplus of manpower. Obviously, the economic restructuring process has caused some difficulties and increased the hardships experienced by certain sections of our working population.

These problems are the center of an ongoing restructuring process, so the solution is not for us to move backwards. The solution is that all involved in the productive sector, and in the industrial sector in particular, must make every effort to ensure that those problems are overcome with greater speed, so there can be more stable jobs and better salaries. Our aim is that investment coming into our country should mean better opportunities to improve worker's living conditions. The creation of micro and small industrial or service-rendering companies, including those processing agricultural products, repair shops, and other profit-generating companies are important employment sources. To that end, it is important to note that the government supports and encourages the development of micro and small companies, which must use local resources and increase their value, thus satisfying the people's needs.

However, it is in the rural areas that we must pin our greatest hopes on reducing unemployment; increasing production; and fighting inflation, the high cost of living, and constant food shortages. The removal of mines from villages, plantations, and roads; the construction and rehabilitation of infrastructure promoting the resettlement of rural population; and the support for the family sector through rural development policies are solid ways for us to achieve our aims.

These policies will continue to apply this year. They are closely connected with guarantees that the people can use the land. Thus, land policy will continue to be very important and the government will continue to give it much attention. To facilitate access to, and the use of land, its attribution, especially to the family sector, will be intensified. We will continue to work to make the public more aware of the Land Law and its regulations, so people can be better informed and defend their interests. We will also revise the Land Law and respective regulations.

Dear Assembly of the Republic chairman, deputies, distinguished guests: One of our country's principal problems is its obvious lack of internal financial resources to develop our immense economic potential. It is an illusion to think we can attain our development goals within an economically acceptable period if we turn inward and stay with the current stage of development of our productive forces. The alternative, side-by-side with internal savings and investment policies, is to go out into the international market to look for loans and attract investment that will not undermine either our sovereignty or our people's interests. It is from this point of view that we must negotiate to bring South African farmers to this country; sign of an agreement with Enron, a U.S. company, to exploit Pande gas; make an agreement with LONRHO [London Rhodesia] company to seek hydrocarbon substances in the Rovuma River's area, and encourage ever growing visits by foreign businessmen. However, attractive as our country may be, there is no automatic guarantee that foreign investment will arrive all on its own. Foreign investment is flowing in many directions, notably toward the countries of the former Eastern Bloc, which have absorbed a large portion of the investment that, under other circumstances, would have gone to Third World countries, Mozambique included. This means that we must compete to attract investment. Thus, in addition to encouraging internal private investment, we must continue to work to build a climate conducive to attracting foreign investment, including an easing of procedural measures pertaining to investment requests, customs and taxation incentives, and profit transfers. On the other hand, we need to implement correct monetary and fiscal policies to reduce the inflation rate. We will continue to work to consolidate the process of restructuring national financial institutions, cut down on public spending, and to perfect tax collection mechanisms, thereby expanding the tax base. Tax evasion must be cut down. In fact, it must disappear so we plan to tighten even further our siege on tax evaders this year. It is important that our citizens realize that the payment of taxes on their business activity is the greatest guarantee they have that

their business will continue, in addition to the fact that they are legally obliged to pay taxes. [passage omitted]

The IMF and the World Bank carry special weight in our economic picture, not just because of their loan amounts but, above all, because of their ability to influence donors and other international financial institutions. Although it is not always as desired, our relations with these institutions are necessary and must continue.

Dear Assembly of the Republic chairman: We traveled through the country last year. We paid official working visits to nine of the 11 provinces that make up Mozambican territory. We visited the other two in a private capacity. We talked at length with the people, businessmen, and authorities at various levels in the countless districts, villages, and cities we toured. What we saw and heard only convinced us further that we are already on the right path.

Despite shortcomings in the country, we have seen the immense untapped national economic potential. Despite the continual enthusiasm, dedication, and generosity of our hard-working people, we are faced with a lack of material and financial resources. We must rationalize our production effort and reinvest our savings and at the same time attract foreign capital to find an adequate solution that will enable the abundance of resources in the country to be transformed into a major source of well-being and prosperity for our people. We are bent on making this effort and believe we will succeed.

In our varied contacts with representatives of traditional authority in the various provinces, we realized that it is a living and complex reality with different forms in each region. There is a need to deepen our understanding of this fact. The government has already extensively studied the issue with a view to finding better ways to accommodate this authority in the country's social and political system without hindering achievements in democracy and modernization acceptable to our society.

During our visits we also realized there are major imbalances and asymmetric development between the cities and rural areas, between one city and another, and one province and another. This is a legacy we have to face with courage and without resentment or prejudice. Colonialism developed and equipped certain areas better than others, which they then used to assert their authority, and these were places where most of the colonial population was established. Infrastructure in these places gave undeniable advantages to the cities of Maputo, Beira, and Nampula to the benefit of their inhabitants. The solution to this problem does not lie in halting progress in these centers. The solution lies in continuing efforts to reduce these asymmetries by adopting

policies aimed at developing less-developed cities and provinces. The government's five-year program contains concrete proposals in this direction, namely: to give priority to some provinces in huge economic ventures; to establish specific socioeconomic infrastructure and construct roads enabling a regular, rapid, and secure link between various strategic regional, provincial, and district points; the development of radio and television to cover as much Mozambican territory as possible; the opening of more primary, secondary, and high schools, as well as the gradual extension of universities to the country's various provinces. Some of these measures already are being implemented to correct the asymmetries and imbalances inherited from colonialism and that we could not achieve earlier due to war.

A factor that will enhance these efforts significantly [words indistinct] decentralization process, the extension and consolidation of multiparty democracy, must go ahead with as little interruption as possible. Any prolonged interruption has immense negative effects on the country's democratization process, as well as on establishing legal structures pertaining to the general state administration. The government has been instructed to effectively work toward the conclusion of this issue.

Mr. Chairman of the Assembly of the Republic, your excellencies, in order to continue to influence world events and promote the image and prestige of our country, as well as extend and consolidate our relations of friendship and cooperation, we have carried out numerous actions internationally that have been beneficial to our country. We were admitted to the Commonwealth in 1995 after many years of informal cooperation with this organization. This has helped and assisted our country and southern Africa as well as in the implementation of democratic principles, development, respect for human rights, and above all on the right to emancipation, self-determination, and independence of the peoples. Besides opening a new front for our country where our policy may be felt, Mozambique's Commonwealth membership also enables us to better understand events in neighboring countries where most of our diplomatic efforts are concentrated. Moreover, we now are closer to other Commonwealth countries in other continents.

Day by day, the world is becoming a small global village, where the detonation of an explosive device in one point has repercussions in all parts of the world. An epidemic outbreak in the Far East may have dire consequences in the most remote village of our country. Under the circumstances, we must be continually aware of and involved in world affairs, and do our best to make our presence felt and have a say in international affairs on behalf of, and in the defense of, our people's interests. Thus, the Commonwealth is one of the most

important fronts for the promotion and defense of Mozambique's interests.

It is with equal satisfaction that we have been witnessing an increase and a vigorous reinforcement of our cooperation with Portugal. Portugal's earlier apprehension over our membership in the Commonwealth has been dissipated and replaced by mutual and growing trust and bilaterally advantageous cooperation. Portugal realized that by joining the Commonwealth, Mozambique did not want to reduce its relationship with that country. We were just — as does Portugal and any other country — searching to improve our position in the world. [passage omitted]

**Mozambique: Editorial Criticizes Assembly  
Deputies' Behavior**

MB0403162696 Maputo SAVANA in Portuguese  
1 Mar 96 p 9

[Editorial: "Grow up Honorable Deputies!"]

[FBIS Translated Text] After the state of the nation address delivered by the head of state at the opening of the Assembly of the Republic's fourth ordinary session, we feel there are still many challenges ahead of us, as Mozambicans, regardless of our political convictions.

In concrete terms, we still have the same country we had a year ago, although there is now greater internal pressure to see political and economic institutions do more and better.

The president of the Republic conveyed the impression of someone who went to Parliament to spend much time "talking to the people's representatives" to dissipate criticism from Mozambicans and diplomats who feel he is not doing much to talk to his voters.

What concerns us most in the Assembly is the quality of addresses by our deputies — from all three benches.

Every time an issue is debated, there is an ideological rift between the benches. Deputies from the Mozambique Liberation Front [Frelimo] Party seem ever convinced they are in Parliament to "save the fatherland invaded by the Mozambique National Resistance [Renamo] vandals." In turn, Renamo deputies seem to be increasingly convinced their parliamentary mission is "to hinder any effort by Frelimo and the government to do something positive," thus going to the extent of confusing the head of state for just another "citizen Joaquim Chissano."

What does the Democratic Union [UD] do between these two "lunatics?" Acting intelligently implies certain opportunism, alerting one or the other party about this or that folly. Nothing else.

This Assembly's unproductive operation must end, before we regret having voted ill-suited deputies to resolve our problems. Except on very rare occasions, we have not yet seen our deputies approach the most important issues affecting our lives in an impartial, objective, and argumentative manner. It is always the same deadlock situation Frelimo/Renamo, Renamo/Frelimo, as if the country should be at the mercy of the stupid contradiction between these two parties mainly responsible for this country's economic, social, and cultural devastation.

Deputies from whom a lot is expected spend much time flattering the head of state and "expressing concern" about the existence of armed men in the country.

How many parliamentary commissions were sent to Dombe, Maringue, and Gorongosa to investigate whether or not these armed men exist? What kind of deputies are these who only ape what the press reports, without carrying out their own investigation?

Joaquim Chissano, knowing that our deputies lack elementary norms about "governance," the individual operations of "his" ministers, corruption, and so on, decided to spend three hours lecturing them instead of the 30 minutes allocated to him. This was "annoying" to those who knew their subject and pleasing to others, whose broad and constant smiles toward the master evidenced the educational usefulness of the three hours of a tedious address.

Every time an ordinary session ends, we expect to see one better than the previous one. We are frequently mistaken, because it seems our deputies return worse from their vacation every time.

With this quality of political debate in Parliament, how can we expect a fair and efficient monitoring of the other organs of state power?

How will the president of the Republic perform better than in the past if there is no concrete criticism of his role as the head of state? All we saw was big confusion over the interpretation of the Constitution, since some deputies confused the president of the Republic for Frelimo chairman, while others confused him for the head of government. He was in Parliament in his capacity as the head of state, because it is only in that capacity that he can deliver a state of the nation address.

Grow up, honorable deputies. Study and investigate before standing up to speak so you can represent us with the dignity we deserve!

**Mozambique: Article Berates Chissano's Assembly Speech**

MB0403165996 Maputo IMPARCIAL in Portuguese  
1 Mar 96 pp 1, 2

[Article by IMPARCIAL Director Migueis Lopes Junior: "A Partisan State of the Nation"]

[FBIS Translated Text] A partisan state of the nation emerged on 29 February as the Assembly of the Republic was transformed into a mixture of judicial manipulation, a play of words, a show of political arrogance, and a reflection of the servile approach and vote dictatorship applied as deemed necessary by the ruling party, which takes advantages of the "loopholes" of an unjust Constitution aimed at perpetuating the authoritarianism of times gone by but gives it a democratic facade, thus effectively turning the Assembly into a stage for an electoral rally that was both less than truthful and sleep-inducing.

President Chissano's presence was imposed in the terms and for the time that he deemed fit, after the extremely obedient Mozambique Liberation Front (Frelimo) Party deputies had used the excuse of "deference" to the head of state to brush aside the objections and reasons presented by their Mozambique National Resistance (Renamo) counterparts. In fact, the president's presence violated regulations set by Frelimo itself. It is worth noting that the majority bench has deemed it fit to raise similar objections and reasons when it "shoots down" Renamo's proposals or legislative initiatives. Against this backdrop, President Chissano lunged into an interminable exercise of nostalgia and drowsy rhetoric, as though he were chairman of the board of directors of a liquidated company — the innocuous and incompetent government he heads. He did all this to try and invert the clear and very public signs of its downfall. A protracted 90 minutes of conveying intentions, of touching up a hopelessly smudged picture of "gains" and "achievements," of shamelessly repeating Frelimo slogans that the common citizen has turned into puns and cynical jokes as every day brings increased despair. Just as in the past, the word Mozambique is the sole link between the real country where most of us live and the marvelous and hopeful country described by the president — or, more accurately, the Frelimo president.

Despite the fact that donors are exerting pressure and showing signs of irritation at the continued mismanagement of public and foreign aid money, the head of state "patted" the deputies on the back and extolled their posture and performance. He encouraged dialogue and the discussion of ideas with the sincerity that we can infer from someone who never does so with civilian society.

President Chissano generously awarded himself a pile of laurels — whatever their worth, describing his government's performance as "transparent" and energetic. Then he proceeded to "displace" the real corruption that he claimed to have been long taken in hand. In a most superficial analysis of the problem, he tried to skirt the undeniable fact that corruption has become virtually part of Mozambique's culture, conveniently omitting the other fact that it was, is, and will continue to be from the top of the social and political pyramid downward that such behavior becomes an example that spreads to the whole of society. The lack of seriousness of the president's analysis also showed in the examples he mentioned of the stolen corn and the hashish that was found and allegedly destroyed. These examples show that real corruption does not reside in attempts by the common citizen to bribe a teacher or a policeman. Rather, the very heart of corruption beats much higher up, in the leadership of the government and the ruling party.

In fact, you can reach this conclusion just by observing the ostentatious [words indistinct] dividends. What is more, has anybody failed to see that 1,400 metric tons of grain could not have disappeared from Maputo Harbor without the connivance of senior government officials? Is anyone in any doubt that most of that cake went to the "big shots," who must necessarily be around to ensure that drug smuggling and money laundering continue with impunity and in broad daylight, as though nothing could be more natural?

Frelimo traditionally creates a scapegoat to make inconspicuous its substantial responsibility in the country's headlong rush to the abyss. This time being no exception, the president brought the "Chimwenje" ["Torch" — Zimbabwean dissidents] to the fore, but at least he had the good taste to make only an indirect reference to the political charade of Renamo's involvement with that group. In fact, it was curious to see the head of state distance himself from the State Information and Security Service's (SISE) rather awkward and shoddy arguments that his party's hardliners continue blowing up every day in the state-controlled media. Incidentally, the SISE remains answerable to nobody and outside the indispensable control of democratic institutions.

The indifference, or disbelief, shown by the international community in regard to reports bearing all the signs of a disinformation operation that the defunct "natural allies" of the Frelimo Party's Marxist-Leninist wing used to be good at; the dubious "evidence" presented as "irrefutable" against a rather absurd — if not downright surrealistic — background in which a guerrilla group engaged in acts of terrorism precisely in a region of the country that was claimed to have served as its sanctuary, or that Renamo ill-treated or robbed people that gave it

nearly 75 percent of the vote in the last elections; and the obvious insult to anybody's intelligence, as seen in the smokescreen of vested interests erected by people longing for a return to the days of dictatorship and who are well placed into decision-making bodies (even more, it is worrisome to see that some of them are able to override President Chissano's own wishes) and are believed to be the reasons that made the president of the Republic moderate his tone, thus avoiding the ridicule now attached to his direct collaborators and provincial officials. (What is more, it is worrisome to see that some of these officials are able to override President Chissano's own wishes). By adopting a more moderate tone, the head of state avoided the ridicule now attached to his direct collaborators and provincial officials.

Once over, this popular rally-like introduction — with the expected blessings of the ever-solicitous Assembly chairman, Dr. Eduardo Mulembwe — should have been followed by comments by the deputies of this theoretically sovereign body. A few minutes were granted to the three benches so they could make "clarification requests" (yes, Frelimo's democratically unique constitution places the all-powerful head of state above any need to answer questions, or undergo control or verification by persons, bodies, or institutions), allowing the Fre-

limo bench to hail the "wise words" of their "comrade president," and the opposition to ask a few questions.

Using the latter as an excuse, the head of state proceeded to launch into yet another propagandistic tirade — impromptu, this time — of which we retained mainly the disclosure that he, President Joaquim Chissano, has devised a code for communicating with his ministers. This code uses Portuguese words (as the official language, obviously) that only he [as published] can decipher. The words in this "code" do not mean the same thing as could be interpreted by the common citizen, or the opposition politician. Thus, the president explained, when Interior Minister Manuel Antonio said: "I am not resigning, no one can make me" — which attracted much indignation, as did his obviously misunderstood comments concerning responsibility for inmates dying in jail — that "no one," which normally would have meant "nobody," actually was part of Chissano's private code and meant "no person, excepting the president of the Republic, the prime minister, or Frelimo Party leadership." It just could not be simpler or clearer. Above all, nothing could have demolished more effectively all the shrewd arguments raised by "those with bad intentions"...

### Cameroon

#### Cameroon: Four Killed, Several Dozens Wounded in Weekend Ethnic Clash

AB0403134496 Paris AFP in French  
1207 GMT 4 Mar 96

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Yaounde, 4 Mar (AFP) — Four persons were killed and several dozens wounded in a clash between the Bambili and Babanki ethnic groups over the weekend in the Northwest Province of Cameroon, it was learned today from police sources.

According to a policeman in Bamenda, the provincial capital, a land litigation has opposed Bambilis and Babankis for decades. Most of the wounded, who were admitted to the Baptist Mission Hospital of Kumbo in the northwest, are suffering from machete and spear wounds.

According to the officials of the provincial governor's office in Bamenda, the intervention of the gendarmerie enabled the disarming of the protagonists. On its side, the biweekly English newspaper THE HERALD, quoting travelers returning from the area, affirmed that there were seven dead and large material damage. [passage omitted]

### Liberia

#### Liberia: Johnson Claims Still in Control of ULIMO-J Faction

AB0403195096 London BBC World Service  
in English 1705 GMT 4 Mar 96

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] This week has got off to a pretty bad start for the Liberian faction leader, Roosevelt Johnson. Yesterday, his colleagues in the leadership of ULIMO-J [United Liberation Movement for Democracy in Liberia-Johnson], including the chief of staff announced that they have sacked him and that he was being replaced by William Kayi, a graduate student, who has wasted no time and has already appointed his own lieutenants, including Raleigh Seekie. It all comes in the wake of violent clashes between ULIMO-J and the ECOMOG [Economic Community of West African States Cease-Fire Monitoring Group] peacekeeping force around Tubmanburg in northwestern Liberia. Well, earlier tonight, Roosevelt Johnson himself called us up saying he was speaking from Kakata and on the line, Robin White asked him if he accepted that he had been sacked.

[Begin recording] [Johnson] Look Robin, I am the national chairman of ULIMO. I am in full control of our forces. It is unfortunate to have heard Raleigh Seekie,

that was removed from the National Bank, [is] behind this disgruntled element. We are in full control of the organization and as far as we are concerned, we do not want to give credence to this frustrated group.

[White] So, what are you going to do about it?

[Johnson] Well, look Robin, to actually say the fact, I am not worried about these guys because I know they can't do anything. They are just causing noise. It is something like somebody going on the radio — the national and international radio — and say look, I am president of the Republic of Liberia, you know, or going on the radio and saying look, I am the director now of the BBC. So, I am not concerned about them. I am very much concerned about moving the peace process forward.

[White] Now, you are not in Monrovia at this moment. I understand that you are in Kakata, yes?

[Johnson] Yes, yes, I am in Kakata....

[White, interrupting] Does that mean that you have run away from Monrovia?

[Johnson] Oh, look Robin, I will be back to Monrovia this evening. I went to Kakata on an inspection tour to make sure that things are intact in Kakata.

[White] And that you think you will be able to get back into the ULIMO office in Monrovia?

[Johnson] Look Robin, I am still in control. I am not out of it. I am still in control.

[White] Yes, but they are there sitting at the ULIMO office presuming you will have to try and get them out of the ULIMO office.

[Johnson] They are not there. Robin, they are not there. They have been hiding somewhere in a corner in Raleigh Seekie's house somewhere and there they are speaking from. You know, I am not concerned about these people, Robin.

[White] But, do you think it is possible that the other members of the interim government might recognize this group that is opposing you?

[Johnson, sighing] Look, look Robin, I don't know. I don't know who is going to recognize them. The only astonishing situation that I observed is that Raleigh is being heavily guarded by ECOMOG and this raises some sign, though, but it is a simple matter. We are going to handle it and we are not to take it very serious. It is a simple matter.

[White] So, chance is if you think it possible that ECOMOG might recognize this group?

[Johnson] Well, I don't know. In the first place, ECOMOG should be a neutral force and what happens in any of the warring factions should be an internal matter and that is how we perceive it to be. [end recording]

**Liberia: ECOMOG To Withdraw Troops in Protest Over Weapons Seizure**

AB0503093496 London BBC World Service  
in English 0630 GMT 5 Mar 96

[From the "Network Africa" program]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The west African peacekeeping force in Liberia, ECOMOG [Economic Community of West African States Cease-Fire Monitoring Group] has announced the withdrawal of its troops from the town of Tubmanburg. ECOMOG says the move is in protest of the seizure of their weapons by ULIMO [United Liberation Movement for Democracy in Liberia-Johnson] militia two months ago. The withdrawal comes a day after the ULIMO-J high command sacked Roosevelt Johnson as leader for allegedly refusing to cooperate with ECOMOG. From Monrovia Budu Kasie reports:

[Begin Kasie recording] General John Inienger hinted that Tubmanburg will remain out of bounds for the moment, at least for the safety of his soldiers. He said despite repeated efforts by each member of the country's six-man collective presidency and elders of the Krahn ethnic group who had wished the rebels to adopt a peaceful approach, the rebels have refused to hand back the weapons. He accused Gen. Roosevelt Johnson, the deposed leader of the Krahn ULIMO wing of thwarting efforts by his rebel chief of staff Drama Yulu to release those weapons.

The weapons in question are two 122m artillery guns and seven mortar tubes which the peacekeeping force said are dangerous. The continuous seizure of the weapons portends threat to the peacekeepers, civilians, and the entire peace process. He said, We want those weapons back and we will get them. Gen. Inienger said the force will consider other options to release those weapons.

Diplomats and the relief communities are worried about what may happen to thousands of displaced Liberians and Sierra Leonean refugees in the town in the aftermath of the peacekeepers withdrawal. [end recording]

**Nigeria**

**Nigeria: Abiola Wins Legal Battle To Restart Treason Trial**

AB0403223796 Paris AFP in English  
1756 GMT 4 Mar 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Lagos, Mar 4 (AFP) — Nigerian opposition leader Moshood Abiola, self-declared winner of the presidential election in 1993, won an important step on Monday [4 March] in a legal battle to force the Supreme Court to resume his trial for treason.

The Federal High Court here gave Abiola permission to sue the Supreme Court president and two other senior judges for failing to replace trial judges who were disqualified last May.

A minimum of five judges are required to hear a case, but seven of Abiola's 11 trial judges were disqualified on May 16 after they brought a libel action against the Concord press group, which he owns.

The President of the Federal High Court, Babatunde Belgore, ruled in Abiola's favour after his lawyer, Chief Godwin Ajayi, argued that the failure to appoint new judges was preventing a resumption of his trial.

Belgore ordered the presidents of the Supreme Court and of the Court of Appeal, and the Attorney General of Nigeria to meet within seven days and recommend nominees to the ruling junta.

Abiola, who is believed to have won the June 12, 1993 election, was arrested and charged with treason when he declared himself president; the election was later annulled by the military.

His trial went to the Supreme Court when the government filed an appeal there against the ruling of the Court of Appeal in Kaduna, northern Nigeria, on November 4, 1994, releasing the millionaire politician on bail.

Abiola's most senior wife, Kudiratu Abiola, who was present in court on Monday, told AFP: "I feel very high and confident" after the ruling.

**Nigeria: Abacha Calls For Continued International Support**

AB0303193996 Lagos Radio Nigeria Network  
in English 1800 GMT 3 Mar 96

[FBIS Transcribed Excerpt] The head of state, General Sani Abacha, has called for the continued support of the international community in the transition to civil rule program. He made the call in a message to the 14th convocation of the University of Port Harcourt.

Gen. Abacha said that such a support from foreign countries, all Nigerians, and the nation's political actors would help ensure the enthronement of viable and enduring democracy. He reiterated the government's determination to implement the transition program, thereby setting the stage for the gradual disengagement of the military from the governance of the country. [passage omitted]

#### **Nigeria: Government Reiterates Commitment to Transition Program**

*AB0503110796 Lagos Radio Nigeria Network in English 0600 GMT 5 Mar 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The Federal Government has reiterated its determination to vigorously execute the transition program to usher in an enduring democracy. The minister of state for foreign affairs, Alhaji Idrissu Kpaki restated this in Abuja yesterday when he received the Iraqi ambassador to Nigeria Mr. (Taha Shaka Manud).

The minister appealed to developing countries to unite and protect their common interests. Earlier, the ambassador had said that Nigeria's role in Africa had motivated Iraq's desire to strengthen relations with Nigeria. Mr. (Manud) stated that the Iraqi Government recognized Nigeria's right to exercise its sovereignty without internal interference.

#### **Sierra Leone**

#### **Sierra Leone: Second Round of Elections Scheduled for 15 Mar**

*AB0403225296 London BBC World Service in English 1505 GMT 4 Mar 96*

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The mere fact that elections have been at all in Sierra Leone would be seen in some quarters as a minor miracle, but that's not good enough for some politicians WHO are for the RUF [Revolutionary United Front] rebels who have just held their first round of peace talks with the NPRC [National Provisional Ruling Council] military government in Abidjan. The talks were organized with help from the Ivorian Government, the International Red Cross, and the International Alert, but the RUF don't recognize the election results and now some of the losing presidential candidates are complaining about the conduct of the polls, particularly the use of indelible ink. Meanwhile, the two leading candidates are supposed to take part in a runoff later this month. On the line to Freetown, Elizabeth Ohene asked Sierra Leone's electoral commissioner, James Jonas, if he

could confirm that the second round would happen as promised by 15 March.

[Begin recording] [Jonas] Yes, that's the date that has been announced. I must say in all frankness that this is an extremely tight schedule for INEC [Independent National Electoral Commission]. I think there has been some kind of misconception. It is true that INEC said we were prepared and we were prepared but I think to ask INEC in the next 10 days to prepare for a second round is, I believe, asking too much.

[Ohene] To put it quite bluntly, you wouldn't be able to cope with that.

[Jonas] Well, we have to our best but we would have liked to have more cushion time but we will try our best. I think, perhaps, we are being put to a severe test. Hopefully, we will come through.

[Ohene] Dr. Jonas, what are you doing about all these complaints from what, I think about six or seven of the political parties who are alleging fraud and all other things? What are you doing about them? Are you just dismissing their complaints?

[Jonas] No, no, no, no. We are investigating. In fact, if you take these complaints, for example multiple voting, when you look at the statistics, there is no clear evidence of that. I'm not saying but perhaps you have one or two cases, I do not believe that it was massive, if at all. Secondly, there was this question of the indelible ink and here there is also some misconception. I am not a scientist we were assured by (Dela Rue) that the stain will remain for 72 hours. We merely repeated that and for someone to begin to say we deceived them, I think is rather silly. We relied on it and, in fact, many candidates have testified that they have not been able to remove those stains from their finger nails. The next one was of....[Jonas pauses] I don't think of much consequence but we are going to look at all of these and, in fact, many of them are withdrawing their complaints. So, I think that it was unfortunate that only two of them tried to involve the executive but I think the executive did not fall into that trap and the head of state has just announced today that he accepted the results.

[Ohene] Now, would you make anything out of the proposal that has....[Ohene pauses] or the suggestion that has also been made that maybe there is no need to have a second round, that maybe the country can't go through a second round again?

[Jonas] Well, this was our hope, prior to the announcement by the head of state. In fact, we were exploring the possibility of an accommodation by the two leading candidates. You see it saves so much....[pauses] whether or not you are going to go through the difficult

time, but we cannot understand what the security will be like and we have seen that it was not only the RUF that caused trouble, that others did cause trouble, and we cannot predict what will happen. So, we would have cleared ourselves, but the head of state was complying with the law, with the Constitution, and with the decree. So, I guess we have to go through with it. [end recording]

**Sierra Leone: NPRC Chairman Calls For Higher Voter Turnout on 15 Mar**

*AB0403210696 Freetown SLBS Radio in English  
2000 GMT 4 Mar 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The chairman of the NPRC [National Provisional Ruling Council] and head of state, Brigadier General Julius Maada Bio, in a radio broadcast this morning called on Sierra Leoneans to turn out in their greater numbers than before to vote in the presidential runoff elections scheduled for Friday, 15 March. The head of state noted that for the first time in three

decades, the NPRC has given Sierra Leoneans the opportunity of voting in a multiparty election for a parliament and president of their choice. While congratulating Sierra Leoneans for their [words indistinct] achievement, Brig. Gen. Maada Bio also urged all eligible voters to choose carefully in the forthcoming presidential [words indistinct] without regard to tribal or personal ties and vote in the best of the two remaining contenders.

The NPRC chairman also announced the lifting of the 8 PM to 6 AM curfew previously in force in order to give contesting candidates an opportunity to campaign in the short period that is remaining. Brig. Gen. Maada Bio warned against riotous behavior and disclosed that the chief of defense staff together with the inspector general of police are to ensure that security is enhanced for maximum voter turnout on polling day. The head of state also hoped that Sierra Leoneans would continue in the spirit of unity and freedom and complete the long journey to democracy within the next two weeks.

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